“PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS: A STUDY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN KARNATAKA”

SYNOPTIC REPORT SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL OF REGISTRATION OF TITLE KARNATAKA STATE AKKAMAHADEVI WOMEN UNIVERSITY, VIJAYAPURA FOR THE DEGREE OF

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Introduction

Information is crucial for decision making across all sectors, from individuals to governments. The rise of information technology has revolutionized how we create and share knowledge, particularly through digital libraries, which extend access beyond physical boundaries. Preserving knowledge is fundamental in our advancing world, ensuring cultural heritage and developmental insights are passed to future generations. Libraries and museums are pivotal in safeguarding historical artifacts, exemplified by India's rich history and dynastic legacies. Museums stand as custodians. Preserving invaluable historical materials that narrate India's diverse cultural tapestry across epochs.

In the field of library and archival science, preservation involves a range of preventive conservation activities aimed at prolonging the lifespan of records, books, materials, and documents. Various methods are employed based on the specific nature of each item to ensure effective preservation. This often includes the use of chemicals and other elements to protect and maintain the integrity of the materials. Such practices play a crucial role in sustaining the collections of libraries and museums. A recent study focused techniques in detail.

In this study, we focused on preserving rare books and artifacts found in libraries and museums across Karnataka.

Definitions:

Preservation and Conservation:

In library and information science preservation and conservation are closely related concepts : preservation refers to all the policies, plans and preventive measures taken to protect library and archival materials from deterioration and to ensure their long-term accessibility while conservation involves the specific technical and physical treatments used to repair, restore or stabilize damaged materials such as mending torn pages rebinding books or deacidification together preservation focuses on prevention and long-term care whereas conservation focuses on direct remedial action to extend the usable life of information resources.

In the field of library and archival science, preservation was a set of preventive conservation activities at the life of records, books, materials and documents. There are many methods in preserving process. According to

nature of document preserving method was choose. Also in conservation of materials many of chemicals and other elements has used to protect and store the materials. This process was very important in maintaining the library materials. In the present study studied about Karnataka Public Libraries.

Library:

The concept of library is exist in earlier centuries, in that period the functionality of libraries is only to store house of manuscripts. Later library has developed in many aspects. It started educates the people through its collections of information, it become basic need for research. It provides needed information for research and development activities. To fulfill these requirements it takes initiation of preservation of available materials.

Literature Reviews

1. **P.S.G.Kumar (2003).** In this covered many topics related to library management with respect of many other sub topics like. Financial, management operations, reporting and preservation & conservation of library materials. In preservation and conservation topic discussed about Archives, Enemies of Book, and explains How to preserve & conserve books and other library materials.
2. **Dr.M.M.Ansari (2003).** In the preservation of reading materials in the library is very important aspect of Library Management which is generally find a neglecting aspects and least attention are paid by the library authorities. It is generally acknowledged that in the present day circumstances the main attention are laid down only on the use of library materials but its preservation aspects has received little attention. The books and other reading material which contain and deals with the developments of our ancestor's civilization & history of human being are precious. It, infects, not only preservers but also mirrors of a country's cultural heritage.

3. **Kousik Samanta and Subhas Chandra Majhi (2003).** In today's digital age, the reliance on digital information is widespread, relegating rare and ancient information to library visits. Manuscripts, vital sources of historical insights, cultural heritage, and past traditions, are safeguarded primarily within libraries. These repositories house preserved manuscripts, handwritten records, poems, letters, and documents that offer glimpses into

the past. Manuscript preservation profoundly impacts society; researchers gauge the value of collections by their accessibility. This study focuses on conserving Kazi Nazrul Islam's manuscripts and rare documents at Nazrul Academy Town Library in West Bengal, India. It examines the library's current state, collection management, services, staff, budget, and policies, while identifying awareness gaps that contribute to existing challenges.

4. **B. S. Kademani , V. L. Kalyane and, Vijai Kumar (2003).** This article examines the significance and necessity of conserving information resources within libraries. It explores the various factors that contribute to the decay and weakening of library materials, proposing strategies to address these challenges. Furthermore, the paper delves into the preservation complexities linked to digital information, along with the obstacles librarians encounter when safeguarding the intellectual content stored in digital media.

5. **R.L.Mittal (2007).** The author discussed about so many subjects enclosed by the author. The author also explores about the consideration of other related topics like library purpose, library administration & management, technical, maintenance, & readers services, functions, records & reports of general office, computers & book trade libraries, and preservation and conservation of library materials. In this preservation and conservation content discussed about physical constituents of books, mending & repairing, conservation of special materials, building, care of preservation and conservation of library materials.

6. **R.C.Ganguly (2007).** In this book editor says that preservation depends on maintaining digital objects and any information and tools that would be needed in order to access & understand them. Together, these can be considered to form an information package that must be managed either as a single object or as a virtual package. Preservation programmes must identify a safe place where digital materials can be stored & managed. Because the concept of the preservation programme allows for distributed arrangements and shared responsibilities, it is quite conceivable that while some programmes will create their own repositories, others may decide to look for a suitable safe place operated and manage by someone else. The

processes of receiving, preparing, and transferring digital materials into the archival system are usually referred to as ingest.

7. **Gouse Riyajuddin and D. Chandran (2008).** During the 20th century, India experienced a significant surge in newspaper growth, particularly noteworthy for its role in information dissemination during pre-independence times. Post-independence, this trend continued, with substantial increases in both English and vernacular daily newspaper. Storage is crucial. This article examines the current methods of preserving newspaper resources in libraries, focusing on Telugu and English dailies in Andhra Pradesh. Furthermore, the article proposes contemporary preservation approaches suitable for newspaper libraries."

8. **Nosheen Fatima Warraich, and Muzammil Tahira(2010).** This research delves into conserving and safeguarding the valuable rare manuscripts at Punjab University library, which houses Pakistan's largest collection of over twenty-two thousand items. The collection is diverse, including palm-leaf manuscripts and various languages and formats. The study gathered information from library staff through focus groups, covering collection details, acquisition, organization, conservation methods, and manuscript digitization. The library offers manuscript listings in languages like Arabic, Sanskrit, Punjabi, Persian, and catalog on its website. Preserving these manuscripts involves strategic planning and project execution, aiming to secure these treasures for future generations. The research highlights the necessity of well-thought-out preservation planning, outlining challenges encountered during the digitization process.

Statement of the problem

"PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS: A STUDY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN KARNATAKA"

The deterioration of library materials forms the basic problem of libraries and given rise to preservation and conservation needs. In the course of preserving materials, there is need to adequately consider the value of records in terms of its educational, socio-political and economic impact on society, and decide the period during which each class of documents might be kept for use and then destroyed or permanently preserved for future use. However, no library material is infinite. By their very nature, they are susceptible to deterioration, hence preserving contained in all media of communication for effective on them. There

is a need to preserve titles which have arte-actual, biographical or intellectual values.

Need for the study

The study focuses on why it's crucial to preserve and conserve library materials in Karnataka.

The main problem libraries are facing are the deterioration of library materials over time, highlights the necessity for preservation efforts. When preserving materials, it's essential to recognize their educational, socio-political, and economic significance to society. Decisions must be made regarding how long each type of document should be kept for use, whether they should be destroyed after a certain period, or permanently preserved for future generations. Despite their importance, library materials are not indestructible and are prone to deterioration. Therefore, preserving and conserving them is critically important. To ensure that information from all forms of communication remains accessible to future generations, it's essential to engage in both preservation and conservation activities. This includes preserving materials that hold significant physical, biographical, or intellectual value.

Scope & limitation of the study

1. Karnataka libraries are commendable in their knowledge preservation. This study requires an analysis of the states, problems, and prospects of these libraries in the preservation and conservation of materials.
2. The study has covers preservation and conservation of library materials in Karnataka.
3. Study covers the public & special libraries situated in the Karnataka.

Objectives

- To study preservation and conservation of materials for libraries.
- To identify methods of preservation and conservation in public libraries in Karnataka.
- To examine the causes of deterioration of public library materials in Karnataka.
- To trace out the techniques used in preservation and conservation of materials in public libraries in Karnataka.

- To identify the problems faced in preservation and conservation of public library materials in Karnataka.

Research Questions and Hypothesis

1. The methods of preservation and conservation are not bearing to the use of library materials in public libraries.
2. Public libraries are not having sufficient infrastructure for protection of library materials.
3. Public library follows connectional for preservation and conservation of library materials

Methodology

1. This study focuses on the preservation and conservation of materials in Karnataka.
2. It examines the methods and efforts undertaken for safeguarding these valuable resources.
3. Exploratory and survey method will be applied.
4. Questionnaire has beveled to collect the appropriate information about the stored materials of selected museums and Libraries in Karnataka. The study has followed by survey method.

Significances of Study:

The study shows that most library materials in the city are affected by dust due to the local geographical environment, creating serious challenges for the preservation of print collections. To address this problem, nearly all the libraries studied have adopted digitization as a primary preservation strategy, as it helps protect materials from physical deterioration caused by dust, humidity and light. Alongside digitization, many libraries continue to use traditional preservation methods such as oiling and binding, where oiling helps prevent damage like cracking in leather-bound books and binding strengthens damaged items to improve their durability. The study also notes that libraries have invested in essential technological infrastructure, including computer hardware and software, which supports the digitization process as well as the storage, management and accessibility of digital collections. Overall, the findings reveal that libraries are using a combined approach of digital and

traditional preservation methods, supported by technological investment to ensure long-term access to their collections.

Conclusion

Materials are the heart of libraries. They are vital access to learning and information, and in the future sustain knowledge and allow interpretation of the past. Every library, large or small should have a well-defined program for preserving the materials which it houses. In planning for preventive preservation, users and staff should be aware of roles in the preservation program. S.R. Ranganathan in one of his five law of library science postulates that, “books are for use” if the materials are not well kept, they cannot provide that function because the most effective way to establish longevity of books materials is to prevent or retard deterioration.

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